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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/400,141	09/21/1999	WALTER BRUCE GALT	RR10432	3058

35527 7590 06/30/2004

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EXAMINER

AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

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DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/400,141

Applicant(s)

GALT ET AL.

Examiner

Rasha S AL-Aubaidi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 June 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-13, 16-20, 28-33, 35-49 and 57-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-13, 16-20, 28-33, 35-49, and 57-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Response to Amendment

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-3, 5-13, 16-20, 28-33, 35-49, and 57-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brennan et al (US PAT # 5,329,578) in view of Bissell et al (US PAT # 5, 243,645) and furtherer in view of Jain et al (US PAT # 6,104,799).

Regarding claim 1, Brennan teaches a method in a communications system for routing a call (see abstract), the method comprising: specifying a call routing schedule that is based on a current time of day (see col. 6, lines 50-68 and col. 7, lines 1-15); receiving a call; identifying call routing information for the call (this reads on CLID, see col. 3, lines 62-65); routing calls according to a current time of day utilizing said call routing schedule unless a function has been selected (this basically reads on routing the calls based on the specified schedule , see table 3.0 in col. 7); overriding said call routing schedule when a function has been selected (see col. 8, lines 47-60); routing the call using a sequence of destinations associated with the function instead of routing the all using the call routing schedule (the sequence of destinations may reads on table 3.0 . col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage).

Brennan does not specifically teach specifying a list of functions, which each function being associated with a different activity of a subscriber; said function being used for routing calls when said function is selected; responsive to identifying call routing information, determining whether a function has been selected for routing the call; monitoring results from routing of the call.

Brennan also, does not teaches automatically modifying the call routing information based on the results to form modified call routing information, wherein subsequent calls are routed using the modified call routing information.

However, Bissell teaches calls and messages are automatically forwarded to an individual who is away for his/her home or office based upon information obtained when the individual engages in a transaction or activity (reads on functions), such as making a credit card purchase or a credit card call (see abstract).

Jain system teaches monitoring calls that are intended for high-end customers. For example, for "automatically modifying the call routing information based on the results to form modified call routing information" which basically means calling the number where the last call was completed (see abstract, col.1, lines 29-42, and col.2, lines 3-28).

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Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of selecting a special function or activity, as taught by Bissell and automatically modifying the call routing information based on the results to form modified call routing information (means calling the number where the last call was completed) as taught by Jain into the Brennan system in order to provide the user with the flexibility, enhancing the service of routing and delivering calls to the user at any location, and to improve the chances of readily reaching the customer.

Claims 2, 6-8, 10, 13, 16, 28, 30-32, 35-37, 39, 42-45, 57-59 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Regarding claim 30, Jain reference is implemented in a Network Control Point (NCP), which has the same functionality as AIN the Both have a database that is connected to a switches and a signaling network (see Jain Fig. 1). Also, for claim 44, this basically reads on routing the call from the primary number to the secondary number in the case of busy or no answer (see the sequence of destinations may reads on table 3.0 . col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage).

Regarding claims 3 and 33, Brennan teaches the method further comprising: responsive to a determination that a function has been selected for routing the call (the function reads on making a credit card calls or a credit card purchase), determining whether a time period for the function has expired (this reads on the subscriber

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adjusting or extending the time schedule, see col. 8, lines 54-60 in Brennan); responsive to a determination that a time period for the function has expired, routing the call; and routing the call using a call routing schedule based on time instead of using the sequence of destinations associated with the function.

Regarding claims 5 and 35, Bissell teaches the call is routed to a subscriber associated with the "function". These claims will be rejected for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claims 9 and 38 recite that "responsive to detecting initiation of a call by the subscriber from an origin absent from the sequence of destinations, modifying the sequence of destinations to include the origin as a destination within the sequence of destinations". This is an obvious feature, because one can modify and add any destination to the list of destinations.

Claim 29 recites "the request sent from the signaling interface to the database is sent to a service control point, which provides an interface to the database. The signaling interface must be inherent in all the references as well as the database. For example, see Jain (col. 3, lines 59-67, col. 4, lines 10-22, and Fig. 2) and Bissell (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2).

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Claims 11 and 40 recite the calling line identifier is recorded to identify the origin from which the subscriber initiated the call. This is obvious. As a matter of fact Jain teaches CHDB 21 is responsible to determine where the customer originated or received his last call (see col. 4, lines 18-21, also Fig. 2).

Regarding claims 12 and 41, Brennan teaches the sequence of destinations is associated with a time slot (this basically reads on routing the call to the required telephone number at a certain time of the day, see col. 6, lines 50-68 and col. 7, lines 1-15).

Regarding claims 17 and 46, obviously the table on col. 7 of Brennan is programmable and the operator/second target or the third target may be exchanged. For example, there may be certain times when the operator is preferred as a second or a third target.

Regarding claims 18 and 47, Brennan teaches the temporary period of time is a day (for example, see col. 7, table 3.0 and 4.0).

Regarding claims 19 and 48, Jain does not specifically teach responsive to the third destination being answered over a period of time, setting the third destination as the second destination. However, Jain system teaches automatically modifying the call routing information based on the results to form modified call routing information, which

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basically means calling the number where the last call was completed (see abstract, col.1, lines 29-42, and col.2, lines 3-28). Obviously, based on the availability of which destination will answer the phone first, this will be placed as the primary to the first destination.

Claims 20 and 49 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 19 and 48.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (703) 605-5145. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F Matar, can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

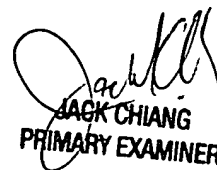
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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Examiner

Rasha S Al-Aubaidi

06/25/2004


JACK CHIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER